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Grace Church Visitor

A Monthly Magazine Devoted to the Interest of Grace Reformed Church

FORT WAYNE INDIANA

VOL. XXIII

JUNE, 1912

No. 8

Grace Reformed Church

East Washington St., between Barr and Lafayette

REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, Pastor

Residence, 320 E. Washington St.

SABBATH SERVICES

Sabbath School.....	9:30 A. M.
Church Services.....	10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.
Y. P. S. C. E.....	6:45 P. M.
Junior Y. P. S. C. E.....	2:00 P. M.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday.....	7:30 P. M.

The Woman's Missionary Society will hold its next monthly meeting at Robison park, July 18th.

Mrs. Brewer entertained the women of the church at her beautiful home on Spy Run avenue, Friday afternoon, May 24th. The women had a very pleasant time and enjoyed the luncheon that was served late in the afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Close entertained the Young People's Society at their home on East Washington street, on Tuesday evening, June 4th. The young people were royally entertained and had a very happy evening.

Mrs. J. H. Straub opened her home to the women of the Missionary Society for their omnthly meeting on Thursday afternoon, June 20th. There was a good attendance and they had an interesting meeting. At the close of the meeting the women were served to a luncheon relished by every one present.

At a meeting of the congregation held at the close of the services Sabbath morning, June 16th, it was decided to

purchase a new carpet for the auditorium and put the carpet now on the floor into the Sunday school rooms. We think this was a very wise move. The matter of raising the money for the new carpet was referred to the women of the church. With a new carpet in the auditorium the walls redecorated and a pipe organ and the lecture rooms renovated it will seem like a new church.

The contract for the frescoing of the church was let to the firm of Cover & Son, June 6th. The work has already been begun. The lecture rooms are completed. While the work is being done in the auditorium the services will all be held each Sabbath morning and evening in the lecture rooms. The contract price for the work is \$400 and we are assured first-class work. This same firm did the work when the auditorium was built in 1894.

June 1st was the twenty-fourth anniversary of the present pastorate and June 8th the pastor's birthday anniversary. Thursday evening, June 6th, the ladies of the church served their monthly supper in the lecture rooms of the church. These suppers are always pleasant social gatherings. They are a home-gathering for the members and the friends of the church, and every person seems to enjoy them. The one on the evening of June 6th was an exceptionally happy occasion. The attendance was large and everybody seemed to be unusually happy. It partook of the nature of an anniversary gathering, and finally took on the air of an anniversary sur-

prise party on the pastor. When the supper was over the secretary of the church, Mr. W. F. Close, asked for the attention of the people and then in a brief and altogether happy way, spoke to them of the child and boyhood life of their pastor, and of his pastorate in Grace church, and then as an expression of their appreciation of his services, he presented the pastor with a handsome purse of money, the gift of the members of Grace church. All this was an entire, though a very happy surprise to the pastor. He does not know how well he succeeded, but he tried as best he could to assure the people of his appreciation of their kindness, and of their love and esteem for him and of their support and co-operation in his work among them. He wishes again to thank the people for their kindness and for the purse with which he was presented; he hopes that while his pastorate may continue in Grace church he may always prove to be a faithful and devoted pastor to his people. Let us seek to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace, and let us pray and labor together for the peace and prosperity of the church.

The program contemplated for Pentecost, the 29th anniversary day of Grace church was carried out to the joy of every one present. Brief addresses were made by the pastor, W. F. Close, and L. W. Hills. The pastor spoke of the organization and growth of the church. Mr. Close gave some timely suggestions about the Sunday school, and the present needs and better equipment of the church. Mr. Hills gave some interesting reminiscences of the church, and made an earnest plea for greater activity and a deeper spiritual life among the people.

The matter of greatest interest and joy in the service was the burning of the church mortgage. Mr. Hills had been chosen by the consistory to have charge

of this service. During the burning the congregation sang "The Long Meter" doxology.

Every person felt happy that the debt was paid and that the church was now ready to undertake some other work. After the burning of the mortgage, another part of the morning's program was introduced. A month or more ago the consistory decided by a unanimous vote that upon the liquidation of the church debt an effort should at once be made to raise \$1,000 or more for the organ fund in order that we might at once avail ourselves of Mr. Carnegie's offer of a thousand dollars. It was contemplated that at the anniversary service an opportunity should be given to the people to give subscriptions to the fund. Anticipating this part of the program for anniversary day a number of people gave their subscriptions on the Saturday previous and others before the service on Sunday morning. Mrs. Zartman had made a little canvas on Saturday and had about \$100 on her list, subscriptions mostly from business men who are not members of Grace church. The pastor had four fifty dollar subscriptions, some twenty-five and fifteen dollar pledges. When the opportunity was given to the people to contribute there was a generous and happy response. At the close of the Sabbath evening service some over seven hundred dollars had been pledged. Since Anniversary Day the canvass has been continued by the pastor, Mrs. Zartman and a few others. The response was most gratifying. Many have been giving without being solicited, and all have given cheerfully. The people were never before so anxious about anything as they are about having an organ. It has been surprising and gratifying to see how united and eager they are. Some few who are not members of the church have asked the privilege to help us in this project. Nearly all who had contributed to the church debt are again

giving liberally. Up to this date, June 20th, eighty-two pledges have been given. With a few exceptions these all represent families. If you have not already given a pledge the pastor will be glad to furnish you with a card at anytime and receive your subscription. Do not wait to be solicited personally. Your pastor is busy, and it will be a great saving of time if you will do this. Every member is asked to contribute something. Everyone will want the privilege and joy of helping in this project. No matter how small your contribution may be, give what you can. So far the pledges have ranged from one to fifty dollars. No one is asked to give more than he easily can. We are hoping now to be able to raise eleven or twelve hundred dollars.

Mr. Carnegie's offer was made to the church in March, 1909. It will be of interest to the members of the church to know the terms and conditions of his proposition. They are indicated in the letter received by the pastor in March, 1909:

"New York City, March 13, 1909.

"Rev. A. K. Zartman, Fort Wayne, Ind.

My Dear Sir: Responding to your appeal, Mr. Carnegie will be glad to provide the last half of the cost of an organ for your church at the price of two thousand dollars. When the first half has been collected by the congregation and payment of organ becomes due.

Respectfully yours,

"JAS. BERTRAM, Sec'y.

"P. S.—Should the congregation decide to purchase a more expensive instrument, Mr. Carnegie will be glad to give the same amount (\$1,000) towards it, but the balance must be in hand so that when Mr. Carnegie's contribution is paid there will be no debt left on the instrument."

Because of our delay to act upon Mr. Carnegie's proposition we had fears that we might have forfeited our right

to his offer; accordingly we wrote to Mr. R. A. Franks, Mr. Carnegie's secretary. In a few days after we received the following reply:

"Rev. Allen K. Zartman,

"Fort Wayne, Ind.

"Yours of May 31st received. Mr. Carnegie's contribution will be available when you advise us that the organ has been installed in the church, and accepted, and you have paid in cash your proportion of the cost of same, for which please send us receipt.

"Yours very truly,

"R. A. FRANKS,

"New York City."

This letter assures us that Mr. Carnegie's contribution is still available to us, and we hope to raise our part of the fund and have the organ installed by October 1st.

At the communion service Sabbath morning, June 23d, the pastor baptised Helen Jessie, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Timis. She was born November 16, 1911.

Rev. Stevens, a returned missionary from China, preached for us on Sabbath morning, June 2d. He gave us a very interesting talk on mission work in China. He is connected with the China Inland Mission. In the evening he gave us a stereoptican lecture which was very instructive.

The Orphan's Home Anniversary will be held Thursday, August 1st. The superintendent would like to have the ladies of the church take charge of the same stand which they have had for a number of years.

Rev. and Mrs. Phillip Volmer, of Dayton, Ohio, called at the parsonage while in the city visiting their son, Rev. Phillip Volmer, the new pastor of the Salem Reformed church. Dr. Volmer preached the sermon at the ordination service of his son Sabbath evening, June 23d.

Grace Church Visitor

REV. A. ZARTMAN, Editor and Publisher

Subscription Price, 25 cents per year

Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert for a box of handsome handkerchiefs on the pastor's birthday.

We thoroughly appreciated the basket of fine cherries from Mrs. Weiler and family. They were beauties.

Mrs. Josephine Diefenbach and two little sons spent a week at the parsonage. Mr. Diefenbach was also here for a day. We greatly enjoyed their visit.

Are the American people forgetting the fourth commandment: Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy? We fear many of our church going people are not keeping the day as they should. It is not a question as to what the world says about this commandment, nor how the world keeps it, but what is God's command and counsel about it. Read Exodus 31:12-17. And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying speak also unto the children of Israel saying, verily my Sabbath shall ye keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you.

Ye shall keep the Sabbath therefore: for it is holy unto you: Everyone that defileth it shall surely be put to death; for whosoever doeth any work therein that soul shall be cut off from among his people.

Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord; whosoever doeth any work in the Sabbath day, he shall be put to death.

Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath to observe the

Sabbath throughout their generation for a perpetual covenant.

It is a sign between me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the Lord made the Heaven and earth, and on the the seventh day he rested and was refreshed.

It behooves every Christian man or woman in the land to keep the Sabbath holy and defend it against the assaults of the ungodly and unbelieving. If Christians will not keep the day and reverence it, what can we expect from the unchurchly and worldly people? To forget the Sabbath, is to dishonor God, and forget him. The Sabbath is a holy day, not a holiday. It is a rest day, but also a day we shall keep holy, and a day of worship. It is the Lord's perpetual covenant throughout all generations. The Sabbath day is not alone in danger by the foreigner, but also by our American born citizens.

Dr. Newman Hall says of the Sabbath: "It is one of God's best gifts—the couch of toil, the truce of care, the sunshine of home, poverty's birthright, the golden chain let down from Heaven to link men with angels and with God."

Here is what some other good men have said about the Sabbath:

"A flower from Eden's garden which still blooms amid the universal blight of sin."

"The dove which is ever returning to us bearing the olive branch."

"The brightest gem in man's casket of mercies."

"An oasis in the desert where the wayworn traveler drinks of the fountain of life and eats of the fruit of the tree of life."

"The Sabbath upholds the visible profession of religion before the eyes of mankind—keeps up the face and aspect of christianity in the world—is the most direct honor that a man can pay to the name and will of the ever-blessed God."

"Sweet day time hours too soon will
cease;

But, while they gently roll,
Breathe, Heavenly Spirit, source of
peace

A Sabbath to my Lord."

Do we want the benediction of the
Sabbath in our homes, in our souls, and
upon our children, and upon our land?
Then we must keep it holy.

RECENT WEDDINGS.

Wednesday evening, May 29th, was the occasion of the marriage of Miss Lucile Bercot, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bercot, to Mr. Frederick H. Tegtmeyer. The wedding took place at the home of the bride on South Hanna street just outside of the city limits. About seventy guests, friends of the bride and groom, were present to witness the ceremony. The bridal party was composed of bride and groom, and the two little cousins of the bride, Ethel Bercot, the flower girl, and Grace Bercot, the ring bearer, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Bercot. The ceremony was performed under a canopy festooned with sweet locusts and roses. Both bride and groom are very pleasant and affable young people and have hosts of friends in the city and community. At the close of the ceremony they were showered with hearty congratulations and were also the recipients of many very handsome wedding presents. They are now residing in their own home on South Calhoun street.

June 8th, Mr. Charles H. Berry and Mrs. Jennie Pappert were married at the parsonage, both residents of Fort Wayne.

Wednesday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, Mr. Earl B. Anderson, of Detroit, Mich., and Miss Kathryn E. Hose were united in marriage at the parsonage. They left the city in the evening for Detroit, where they will make their home.

The Young Peoples' Society repeated the Cantata, "The New Minister," on Thursday evening, June 27th. Everybody enjoyed it.

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Y. P. S. C. E. LEADERS AND TOPICS.

June 30—Missionary topic. Ps. 68:
28-35. Mrs. A. K. Zartman.

July 7. The Christian Virtues,
Honesty. Rom. 12:9-17. Robert
Schmidt.

July 14. How Much Should a
Christian Think of Personal Appearance? II. Kings 9:30-35; Ps. 45:7-15.
Edith Schiffer.

July 21. Christian Common Sense.
Prov. 4:1-9. Mrs. F. D. Knot.

July 28. Missionary Progress in
North America. Acts 2:1-21. George
Schiffer.

At the mid-week service we are having a mission study, using the book "The Conservation of National Ideals." These studies are very interesting. Every member of the church should get the benefit of them.

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